Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a plurality of clients; and

a server ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the plurality of clients to at least one group for the transfer of content at least one of to the server ~~and~~ or from the server, wherein the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients based upon a size of the content, a transfer speed, and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

2. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the server is also ~~capable of collecting~~ configured to collect statistical data relating to a transfer speed and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer to thereby determine the transfer speed and the probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

3. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group associated with at least one transfer window within which the respective at least one client is ~~capable of transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of to the server ~~and~~ or from the server.

4. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ assign at least one of the clients to at least one group based upon a size of the at least one group.

5. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that a number of clients transferring content does not exceed a predefined number of simultaneous

transfers.

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein a transfer period includes at least one transfer window, and wherein the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by the plurality of clients does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

7. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by each of the respective clients does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

8. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, for clients assigned to a plurality of groups, the respective clients are assigned to groups associated with non-overlapping transfer windows.

9. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein the server ~~is capable of assigning~~ being configured to assign at least one of the clients ~~by dividing~~ includes being configured to divide a transfer period into at least one transfer window, ~~determining~~ determine a length of the at least one transfer window based upon the size of the content, the transfer speed, and the probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer, and ~~assigning~~ assign at least one of the clients to at least one group, the at least one group being associated with the at least one transfer window.

10. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 3, wherein at least one of the clients is ~~capable of transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of to the server ~~and~~ or from the server based upon the at least one group.

11. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 10, wherein the server is ~~capable of determining~~ configured to determine if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including at least one client, and if the current time is within at least one transfer window, ~~instructing~~ instruct the respective at least one client to transfer content at least one of to the server ~~and~~ or from the server.

12. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 11, wherein the server is ~~capable of~~ configured to repeatedly ~~determining~~ determine if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including at a predetermined interval such that, if the respective at least one client experiences an interruption in transferring the content, the server is ~~capable of instructing~~ configured to instruct the respective at least one client to thereby permit the respective at least one client to resume transferring the content.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus comprising:

a ~~server agent capable of assigning~~ processor configured to assign a plurality of clients to at least one group for the transfer of content at least one of to the ~~server and~~ apparatus or from the ~~server~~ apparatus, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients based upon a size of the content, a transfer speed, and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is also ~~capable of collecting~~ configured to collect statistical data relating to a transfer speed and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer to thereby determine the transfer speed and the probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at

least one group associated with at least one transfer window within which the respective at least one client is ~~capable of transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of to the ~~server and~~ apparatus or from the ~~server~~ apparatus.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group based upon a size of the at least one group.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that a number of clients transferring content does not exceed a predefined number of simultaneous transfers.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein a transfer period includes at least one transfer window, and wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by the plurality of clients does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by each of the respective clients does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, for clients assigned to a plurality of groups, the respective clients are assigned to groups associated with non-overlapping transfer windows.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the ~~server agent is capable of assigning~~ processor being configured to assign at least one of the clients ~~by dividing~~ includes being configured to divide a transfer period into at least one transfer window, ~~determining~~ determine a length of the at least one transfer window based upon the size of the content, the transfer speed, and the probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer, and ~~assigning~~ assign at least one of the clients to at least one group, the at least one group being associated with the at least one transfer window.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign at least one client such that the at least one client is ~~capable of transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of to the ~~server and~~ apparatus or from the ~~server~~ apparatus based upon the at least one group.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of determining~~ configured to determine if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including at least one client, and if the current time is within at least one transfer window, ~~instructing~~ instruct the respective at least one client to transfer content at least one of to the ~~server and~~ apparatus or from the ~~server~~ apparatus.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~A server~~ An apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of~~ configured to repeatedly ~~determining~~ determine if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including at least one client at a predetermined interval such that, if the respective at least one client experiences an interruption in transferring the content, the ~~server agent~~ processor is ~~capable of instructing~~ configured to instruct the respective at least one client to thereby permit the respective at least one client to resume transferring the content.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus comprising:

a ~~client agent capable of requesting~~ processor configured to request to transfer content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server such that the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group ~~capable of including~~ configured to include at least one other ~~client~~ apparatus, and such that the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group based upon a size of the content, a transfer speed, and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server is ~~capable of collecting~~ configured to collect statistical data relating to a transfer speed and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer to thereby determine the transfer speed and the probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group associated with at least one transfer window within which the ~~client~~ apparatus is ~~capable of transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group based upon a size of the at least one group.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that

the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group such that a number of ~~clients~~ apparatuses transferring content does not exceed a predefined number of simultaneous transfers.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein a transfer period includes at least one transfer window, and wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by the plurality of ~~clients~~ apparatuses does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by the ~~client~~ apparatus does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

32. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server is ~~capable of assigning~~ configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group such that, if the ~~client~~ apparatus is assigned to a plurality of groups, the ~~client~~ apparatus is assigned to groups associated with non-overlapping transfer windows.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server ~~is capable of assigning~~ being configured to assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group ~~by dividing~~ includes being configured to divide a transfer period into at least one transfer window, ~~determining~~ determine a length of the at least one transfer window based upon the size of the content, the transfer speed, and the probability of transferring the content without

experiencing an interruption in the transfer, and ~~assigning~~ assign the ~~client~~ apparatus to at least one group, the at least one group being associated with the at least one transfer window.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is also ~~capable of transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server based upon the at least one group.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server is ~~capable of determining~~ configured to determine if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including the ~~client~~ apparatus, and wherein if the current time is within at least one transfer window, the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of receiving~~ configured to receive an instruction to transfer content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A client~~ An apparatus according to Claim 35, wherein the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of requesting~~ configured to request to transfer content such that the server is ~~capable of~~ configured to repeatedly ~~determining~~ determine if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including the ~~client~~ apparatus at a predetermined interval, and wherein if the ~~client~~ apparatus experiences an interruption in transferring the content, the ~~client agent~~ processor is ~~capable of receiving~~ configured to receive an instruction to transfer content to thereby permit the ~~client agent~~ processor to resume transferring the content.

37. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

assigning a plurality of clients to at least one group for the transfer of content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server, wherein assigning a plurality of clients comprises assigning at least one of the clients based upon a size of the content, a transfer speed, and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

38. (Original) A method according to Claim 37 further comprising:

collecting statistical data relating to a transfer speed and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer to thereby determine the transfer speed and the probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

39. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 37, wherein assigning at least one of the clients comprises assigning at least one of the clients to at least one group associated with at least one transfer window within which the respective at least one client is ~~capable of transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server.

40. (Original) A method according to Claim 39, wherein assigning at least one of the clients comprises assigning at least one of the clients to at least one group based upon a size of the at least one group.

41. (Original) A method according to Claim 39, wherein assigning at least one of the clients comprises assigning at least one of the clients to at least one group such that a number of clients transferring content does not exceed a predefined number of simultaneous transfers.

42. (Original) A method according to Claim 39, wherein a transfer period includes at least one transfer window, and wherein assigning at least one of the clients comprises assigning at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by the plurality of clients does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

43. (Original) A method according to Claim 39, wherein assigning at least one of the clients comprises assigning at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, during the

transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by each of the respective clients does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

44. (Original) A method according to Claim 39, wherein assigning at least one of the clients comprises assigning at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, for clients assigned to a plurality of groups, the respective clients are assigned to groups associated with non-overlapping transfer windows.

45. (Original) A method according to Claim 39, wherein assigning at least one of the clients comprises:

dividing a transfer period into at least one transfer window;

determining a length of the at least one transfer window based upon the size of the content, the transfer speed, and the probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer; and

assigning at least one of the clients to at least one group, the at least one group being associated with the at least one transfer window.

46. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 39 further comprising:

transferring content at least one of from at least one of the clients to the server ~~and~~ or to the server from at least one of the clients based upon the at least one group.

47. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 46 further comprising:

determining if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including at least one client; and if the current time is within at least one transfer window,

instructing the respective at least one client to transfer content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server.

48. (Original) A method according to Claim 47, wherein the determining step occurs repeatedly at a predetermined interval such that, if the respective at least one client experiences an interruption in transferring the content, the instructing step comprises instructing the respective at least one client to thereby permit the respective at least one client to resume transferring the content.

49. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising at least one computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code portions stored therein, the computer-readable program code portions comprising:

a first executable portion ~~for assigning~~ configured to assign a plurality of clients to at least one group for the transfer of content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server, wherein the first executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients based upon a size of the content, a transfer speed, and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

50. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 49 further comprising:

a second executable portion ~~for collecting~~ configured to collect statistical data relating to a transfer speed and a probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer to thereby determine the transfer speed and the probability of transferring the content without experiencing an interruption in the transfer.

51. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 49, wherein the first executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group associated with at least one transfer window within which the respective at least one client is ~~capable of transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server.

52. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 51,

wherein the first executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group based upon a size of the at least one group.

53. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 51, wherein the first executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that a number of clients transferring content does not exceed a predefined number of simultaneous transfers.

54. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 51, wherein a transfer period includes at least one transfer window, and wherein the first executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by the plurality of clients does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

55. A computer program product according to Claim 51, the first executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, during the transfer period, a number of different types of content transferred by each of the respective clients does not exceed a predefined number of different types.

56. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 51, wherein the first executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to assign at least one of the clients to at least one group such that, for clients assigned to a plurality of groups, the respective clients are assigned to groups associated with non-overlapping transfer windows.

57. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 51, wherein the first executable portion ~~is adapted~~ being configured to to assign at least one of the clients ~~by dividing~~ includes being configured to divide a transfer period into at least one transfer window, ~~determining~~ determine a length of the at least one transfer window based upon the size of the content, the transfer speed, and the probability of transferring the content without

experiencing an interruption in the transfer, and ~~assigning~~ assign at least one of the clients to at least one group, the at least one group being associated with the at least one transfer window.

58. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 51 further comprising:

a second executable portion ~~for transferring~~ configured to transfer content at least one of from at least one of the clients to the server ~~and~~ or to the server from at least one of the clients based upon the at least one group.

59. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 58 further comprising:

a third executable portion ~~for determining~~ configured to determine if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including at least one client; and

a fourth executable portion ~~for instructing~~ configured to instruct the respective at least one client to transfer content at least one of to a server ~~and~~ or from the server if the current time is within at least one transfer window.

60. (Currently Amended) A computer program product according to Claim 59, wherein the third executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to repeatedly determine if a current time is within at least one transfer window associated with at least one group including at least one client at a predetermined interval such that, if the respective at least one client experiences an interruption in transferring the content, the fourth executable portion is ~~adapted~~ configured to instruct the respective at least one client to thereby permit the respective at least one client to resume transferring the content.